

METHOD AND APPARATUS USING A MUTLI-CARRIER FORWARD LINK IN A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

5

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field Of the Invention

10

The present invention relates to communications. More particularly, the invention concerns a method and apparatus for transmitting information in a wireless communication system.

2. Description of the Related Art

15

20

25

Figure 1 illustrates a portion of the radio frequency spectrum used in a common telecommunications system. Frequency range 100 centered around 800 MHz has historically been known as the cellular frequency range and frequency range 102 centered about 1900 MHz is associated with personal communication services (PCS). Each range of frequencies, i.e., the cellular and PCS, are broken into two portions. In cellular frequency range 100, there is a reverse link portion 104 that is used for communications from a mobile communication device to a base station such as a cellular base station. Portion 106 of cellular frequency range 100 is used for forward link communications, that is, communications from a cellular base station to a mobile communication device. In a similar fashion, portion 108 of PCS frequency range 102 is used for reverse link communications, that is, communications from a mobile communication device to a base station. Portion 110 of PCS frequency range

102 is used for reverse link communications, i.e., communications from a base station to a mobile communication device.

Each of the frequency ranges is broken into bands that are typically associated with different service providers. In the case of cellular frequency range 100, frequency bands 112 and 114 are designated band "a" for reverse link and forward link communications, respectively. A reverse link is the band connecting a mobile station to a base station, and a forward link is the band connecting a base station with a mobile station. In a particular geographic area, a cellular service provider is assigned frequency bands "a" in order to carry out mobile communications. Likewise, in the same geographic area another cellular service provider is assigned frequency bands 116 (forward link) and 118 (reverse link) which are designated band "b." A frequency spectrum assigned to the service providers is separated so as not to interfere with each other's communications and thereby enable two separate service providers to provide service in the same geographic area.

In the late 1990's, the US Government auctioned the PCS frequency spectrum to service providers. As with the cellular frequency range, the PCS frequency range is broken into several bands where a different service provider may use a particular frequency band for which it is licensed within a particular geographical area. The PCS bands are referred to as A, B, C, D, E and F. The A band includes reverse link band 120 and forward link band 122. The B band includes reverse link band 124 and forward link band 126. Band C includes

reverse link band 128 and forward link band 130. Combined, the reverse link and the forward link band of A, B and C bands are approximately 30 MHz wide. The D band includes reverse link band 132 and forward link band 134. The E band includes reverse link band 136 and forward link band 138. Likewise, band F includes reverse link band 140 and forward link band 142. Combined, the reverse link and forward link bands of D, E and F are approximately 10 MHz wide each. Each of the different cellular and PCS bands consists of control channels and communication channels in both the reverse link and forward link direction.

As shown in Figure 1, it is possible to have as many as eight different wireless communication service providers in a particular area - two cellular service providers, each having a total allocated bandwidth of 25 MHz, and six PCS service providers, each having a total allotted bandwidth of 15 MHz. These providers may employ different technologies for transmitting and receiving telephone calls, data, control commands, or other types of information, singularly and collectively referred to in this application as information signals. For example, a time-division-duplexing technique, a frequency-division-duplexing technique, or a code-division-multiple-access (CDMA) technique might be employed by a provider as described below. Further, if the carrier is using CDMA, then different CDMA standards are available such as IS-95A and IS-95B, each of which have various versions.

In response to consumers demand for greater service options, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) solicited proposals for Third Generation wireless communications. The Third Generation Proposals strive to expand the capabilities of the preceding technologies to include wireless e-mail, Web browsing, and corporate and local network access, as well as videoconferencing, e-commerce and multimedia. One of the candidate submissions to the ITU was proposed by subcommittee TR45.5 of the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) and was called cdma2000, which has since been developed and continues to be developed under the name of IS-2000. The proposed cdma2000 system includes three modes of operation: 1X and 3X mode that employ frequency-division-duplexing (FDD), and a time-division-duplexing mode (TDD).

The 1X FDD mode operates within a 1.25 MHz bandwidth on both the forward and reverse links, thereby providing for higher capacity in the 1.25 MHz bandwidth and supporting high-speed data transmissions. The spreading rate is 1.2288 Mcps on both the forward and reverse links of 1X systems. The 3X mode operates within a 5MHz band on both forward and reverse links. The 3X mode forward link employs a multi-carrier transmission format where three signals are spread at a spreading rate of 1.2288Mcps.

By using the 3X mode and providing a forward link using the multi-carrier format, a communications system is fully compatible with existing IS-95 system. That is, the cdma2000 forward link structure may be "over-laid" on

existing PCS systems. One attribute that makes the forward link multi-carrier system compatible with existing systems is that it preserves orthogonality of signals transmitted in the forward link. The reverse link is not orthogonal, so cdma2000 systems use a direct spreading to 3.6864 Mcps. When used, the time-division-duplex (TDD) mode of operation allows both the forward link and reverse link to be transmitted in a single 1.25 MHz band. The TDD forward link is transmitted in a first time interval and the TDD reverse link is transmitted in a non-overlapping second time interval. The transmissions in both time intervals are direct spread at a 1.2288 Mcps spreading rate.

As mentioned above, Third Generation Systems such as cdma2000 3X are designed for transmitting information that may have very high data transfer requirements, such as email downloading and web browsing. For example, a mobile station user may send a simple message requesting that a web site be downloaded to his mobile phone. This simple request requires very little bandwidth when transmitted on the reverse link to the base station, but timely downloading of the web site on the forward link from the base station to the mobile station will require substantial bandwidth. However, in the currently proposed Third Generation Systems, the bandwidth allocated to reverse link transmissions is the same as the bandwidth allocated for forward link transmissions.

What is needed is a method and apparatus that will allow for the bandwidth allocated to the forward link to be different than the bandwidth

5

[illegible]

10

20

a providers allotted frequency band, or where allowed by multiple providers, anywhere within the frequency spectrum for the cellular or PCS spectrum. In another embodiment, the 3X FL carrier uses one or more carriers with a chip rate that is greater than the chip rate used on the 1X RL carrier.

5

In another embodiment, the invention provides an article of manufacture containing digital information executable by a digital signal-processing device. In another embodiment, the invention yields an apparatus used to practice the methods of the invention. The apparatus may comprise a remote station and at least one base station that has, amongst other things, a transceiver used to communicate information signals to the remote station. Obviously, to receive signals, the remote station also includes a transceiver communicatively coupled to the base station, and possibly satellites where applicable. The apparatus will also include at least one digital processing apparatus, such as a microprocessor, that is communicatively coupled to the network or one of its component parts.

10

15

The invention provides its users with numerous advantages. One advantage is that it provides better spectrum management to a service provider. Another advantage is that a cdma2000 1X system can be upgraded to cdma2000 3X system services on an incremental basis if desired without having to entirely replace existing hardware at once. As explained below, additional hardware can be added or replaced to provide particular types of service as demand for those service types increase. For example, a circuit board may be added to existing hardware to allow additional service types, or to increase service

20

[illegible]

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The nature, objects, and advantages of the invention will become more apparent to those skilled in the art after considering the following detailed description in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which like reference numerals designate like parts throughout, and wherein:

FIGURE 1 illustrates the frequency spectrum used for wireless communications;

FIGURE 2 shows a cdma2000 3X multi-carrier forward link and a single cdma2000 1X reverse link used in accordance with the invention;

FIGURE 3 shows a grouping in a band of cdma reverse links that allows room in

the band for TDD channels used in accordance with the invention;

FIGURE 4a is a block diagram of a general configuration for a mobile station used in

accordance with the invention;

FIGURE 4b is a block diagram of a general channel structure used in accordance

with the invention;

FIGURE 5a is a block diagram of a portion of the hardware components and interconnections of a digital signal processing apparatus used in accordance with the invention;

FIGURE 5b shows an exemplary arrangement for a demultiplexer 511 shown in Figure 5a and used in accordance with the invention;

FIGURE 5c shows another arrangement for a demultiplexer 511 shown in Figure 5a

and used in accordance with the invention;

5

FIGURE 5d is a block diagram of the hardware components and interconnections of

a digital signal processing apparatus used in accordance with the invention;

10

FIGURE 5e is a block diagram of the hardware components and interconnections of

the modulator 526 shown in Figure 5d and used in accordance with the invention;

15

FIGURE 6a is a block diagram of a portion of the hardware components and interconnections of a digital signal processing base station apparatus used in accordance with the invention; and

FIGURE 6b is a block diagram of the hardware components and interconnections of

20

the demodulator 604 shown in Figure 6a and used in accordance with the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS

OPERATION

Figures 2- 6b illustrate examples of various method and apparatus aspects of the present invention. For ease of explanation, but without any limitation intended, these examples are described in the context of a digital signal processing apparatus, one example of which is described following the discussion of the various method embodiments below.

An exemplary embodiment of the present invention is based upon a cdma system. CDMA systems are disclosed in TIA/EIA/IS-2000, prepared by the Telecommunications Industry Association, entitled "SPREAD SPECTRUM DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY - MOBILE AND PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS STANDARDS," and TIA/EIA/IS-95-x entitled "MOBILE STATION-BASE STATION COMPATIBILITY STANDARD FOR DUAL-MODE WIDEBAND SPREAD SPECTRUM CELLULAR SYSTEM", all of which are incorporated by reference herein. As disclosed in IS-2000, a standard cdma2000 3X multi-carrier (MC) forward link (FL) system uses three 1.2288 Mcps carriers paired with a reverse link (RL) that uses a single carrier. This single carrier provides a direct spread chip rate of 3.6864 Mcps. The present invention improves upon this normal configuration.

It should be understood that the methods of the present invention as disclosed below apply to a broad range of services. These services include voice and data services, but the invention is particularly suitable for data services,

such as email and Web browsing, which typically have a significantly greater FL load requirement than RL load requirement.

Spectrum Management

5 In one embodiment, the invention uses a cdma2000 MC FL and a single
cdma2000 1X reverse link as illustrated in Figure 2. In the figure, the 1X RL
carrier is shown in a center "frequency bin," wherein the term frequency bin
describes a 1.25 MHz band within a band class. However, in other
embodiments, the 1X RL carrier could be located in any one of the three
10 possible frequency bins corresponding to each of the three MC FL frequencies.
In the example of Figure 2, the three possible bins are the bin from
approximately .70MHz to 1.95 MHz, the bin from approximately 1.95 MHz to
3.15 MHz, or the bin from approximately 3.15MHz to 4.4 MHz. In other
embodiments, the 1X RL carrier may be in any frequency bin allocated to a
15 provider.

As is known in the art and discussed below, a mobile station can
transmit the 1X RL on any frequency within a provider's band. There are a
number of well-known ways that can be used to generate the different RL
20 frequencies. The small geometries being used for digital signal processing
devices, such as semiconductors, permit the use of high clock rates with
relatively low power consumption. Thus, it is quite practical to generate an RL
waveform that can be varied over the bandwidth allocated to a provider. One
benefit of this invention is that the physical layer structure of the cdma2000 1X

technique remains substantially the same to implement the invention, wherein physical layer refers to the communication protocol between a mobile station and a base station that is responsible for the transmission and reception of data. For example, a power control signal for RL power control can be sent on the three FL multi-carriers and the power control stream for FL power control can be sent on a single RL carrier.

By moving the cdma2000 1X RL over a wide frequency range, and the asymmetric structure that results, the RLs can be grouped in one part of the frequency band and the FLs in another part of the frequency band. This allows for novel and previously undiscovered opportunities in spectrum management. One such arrangement is shown in Figure 3. Here, the RLs are grouped together, leaving room in the provider's band to use 1X and 3X FDD channels and 1X time-division-duplexed (TDD) channels. It should be noticed that the TDD usage is on the RL where interference issues will be less problematic than the other way around, particularly if FDD service is considered the more important service. In the preferred embodiment, the separation of frequency bands between the FDD and the TDD service is 5MHz, but the separation may be as little as 2 MHz. Accordingly, the TDD mobile station transmitter may be on the same frequency as the FDD base station transmitter if there is a distance separation between the mobile station and the base station. In contrast, if the TDD were on the FDD FL, and a TDD mobile station were in the vicinity of a FDD mobile station receiving a weak base station signal, this proximity could cause interference between the FDD mobile station RL and the TDD mobile

station receivers. In other words, the TDD mobile station might receive part of the signal transmitted by the FDD mobile station and intended for an FDD base station. If this situation occurred, the FDD system can be designated as the primary system and the TDD system can be designated the secondary system.

5 The primary system is given preference over the secondary system, and occasional outages of the TDD system may occur.

Forward Link Distribution by Data Type

10 In one embodiment of the proposed invention using a cdma2000 MC FL transmission system, each of the channels of information is evenly distributed across each of the three carriers of the forward link. For example, when transmitting a data signal on the forward link, the symbols for that data signal are evenly distributed with a third of the symbols transmitted on each of the carriers. The benefit of this method is that it provides maximum frequency
15 diversity and increases the reliability of the transmission of the signal. This method minimizes problems caused by frequency dependent propagation characteristics, such as fading.

20 However, using this even-distribution embodiment reduces the flexibility that a multi-carrier forward link can provide. Therefore, in another embodiment of the present invention, different types of information are transmitted using different carriers. For example, fundamental channel data such as speech data may be transmitted on a first carrier while supplemental channel data such as high-speed digital data is transmitted on a second carrier.

This allows the system to be adapted to the needs of the area that it is serving and permits a service provider to incrementally increase the services provided to its customers.

5 For example, when a provider has a three-carrier FL system, he may elect initially to provide speech services on a 1X band. Later, in response to the needs of his customers, a second band can be deployed to carry additional speech services, or the band may be allocated to the purpose of carrying high-speed digital data. Thus, in this embodiment of the present invention, the
10 bands are allocated to carrying different types of data.

 In yet another embodiment, three cdma2000 1X FLs are provided on adjacent frequencies with a single cdma2000 1X RL. Unlike techniques used for multi-code transmissions, multiple FL code channels are assigned to a mobile
15 station on different frequencies. Any combination of code channels can be used on the three frequencies. In another embodiment, the spectrum management methods discussed in the previous section can be used with this method. In another arrangement, one of the forward link channels conveys power control information for the RL and a fundamental channel. A fundamental channel is
20 generally a channel that carries higher-level data and control information. Other frequencies can be used for supplemental channels that operate in conjunction with the fundamental channel, and/or possibly other channels, to provide higher data rate services.

These embodiments have the advantage that existing base station (BS) hardware may be used and, when necessary, supplemented with additional hardware to increase the forward link transmission rates. Supplementing existing hardware, as opposed to replacing an entire base station, is less expensive. Further, the methods of the present invention allow a provider to easily transition from a cdma2000 1X system to a cdma2000 3X system. However, in order to reuse existing BS hardware, some simplifications may be needed in various implementations. One such simplification is that fast (800 Hz) forward link power control used for controlling the transmission power on one frequency probably cannot be used for other frequencies. This situation arises if a particular BS design uses separate hardware cards for each frequency. Separate hardware cards would not permit the transfer of fast power control streams between frequencies in common configurations.

Further, for high-speed data channels, particularly channels with long interleavers, fast forward link power control is not always the best technique for controlling power if the goal is to maximize system capacity. Thus, in this embodiment, a slower form of power control, such as one widely known in the art, should be used. For example, one way of performing FL power control for these additional frequencies is to control the transmitted power from a selector, as is currently done with many IS-95 systems. The selector directs signals onto one or more communication channels, that is, it determines the path to be used for transmission of a signal over the communication system. There, algorithms in a selector determine when the power transmitted to a mobile station needs to

be changed and sends the gain to the BS every frame. A more detailed description of the technique may be found in TIA/EIA/IS-634, entitled "MCS-BS INTERFACE (A-INTERFACE) FOR PUBLIC 800 MHZ," published by the Telecommunications Industry Association, and incorporated by reference herein.

HARDWARE COMPONENTS AND INTERCONNECTIONS

A digital data processing apparatus used to execute a sequence of machine-readable instructions as mentioned above may be embodied by various hardware components and interconnections as described in Figures 4a-6b.

Figure 4a shows a simple block representation of a mobile station (MS) 401 configured for use in accordance with the present invention. MS 401 receives a signal from a base station (not shown) using a cdma2000 3X MC forward link. The signal is processed as described below. MS 401 uses a cdma2000 1X RL to transmit information to the base station. Figure 4b shows a more detailed block representation of a channel structure used to prepare information for transmission by MS 401 in accordance with the present invention. In the figure, information to be transmitted, hereafter referred to as a signal, is transmitted in bits organized into blocks of bits. A CRC and tail bit generator (generator) 403 receives the signal. The generator 403 uses a cyclic redundancy code to generate parity check bits to assist in determining the quality of the signal when received by a receiver. These bits are included in the

signal. A tail bit - a fixed sequence of bits - may also be added to the end of a block of data to reset an encoder 405 to a known state.

The encoder 405 receives the signal and builds a redundancy into the signal for error-correcting purposes. Different "codes" may be used to determine how the redundancy will be built into the signal. These encoded bits are called symbols. The repetition generator 407 repeats the symbols it receives a predetermined number of times, thus allowing part of the symbols to be lost due to a transmission error without affecting the overall quality of the information being sent. Block interleaver 409 takes the symbols and jumbles them. The long code generator 411 receives the jumbled symbols and scrambles them using a pseudorandom noise sequence generated at a predetermined chip rate. Each symbol is XOR-ed with one of the pseudorandom chips of the scrambling sequence.

The information may be transmitted using more than one carrier (channel) as explained with regards to the method, above. Accordingly, demultiplexer (DEMUX) 511, shown in Figure 5a, takes the input signal "a" and splits it into multiple output signals in such a way that the input signal may be recovered. As shown in Figure 5b, in one embodiment the signal "a" is split into three separate signals, each signal representing a selected data-type, and is transmitted using one FL channel per data-type signal. In another embodiment, DEMUX 511 as shown in Figure 5c splits signal "a" into two components per data-type. Regardless of the arrangement, the present invention contemplates

that distinct signals generated from a parent signal can be transmitted using one or more channels.

5 Further, this technique can be applied to multiple users whose signals are transmitted using completely or partially the same FL channels. For example, if the signals from four different users are going to be sent using the same three FL channels, then each of these signals is "channelized" by demultiplexing each signal into three components, where each component will be sent using a different FL channel. For each channel, the respective signals are multiplexed together to form one signal per FL channel. Then, using the technique described herein, the signals are transmitted. Returning to Figure 5a, the demultiplexed signal is then encoded by Walsh encoder 513 and spread into two components, components I and Q, by multiplier 517. These components are summed by summer 519 and communicated to a mobile station (not shown) by transmitter 521.

20 Figure 5d illustrates a functional block diagram of an exemplary embodiment of the transmission system of the present invention embodied in a wireless communication device 500. One skilled in the art will understand that certain functional blocks shown in the figure may not be present in other embodiments of the invention. The block diagram of Figure 5e corresponds to an embodiment consistent for operation according to the TIA/EIA Standard IS-95C, also referred to as IS-2000, or cdma2000 for CDMA applications. Other embodiments of the present invention are useful for other standards including

Wideband CDMA (WCDMA) standards as proposed by the standards bodies ETSI and ARIB. It will be understood by one skilled in the art that owing to the extensive similarity between the reverse link modulation in the WCDMA standards and the reverse link modulation in the IS-95C standard, extension of
5 the present invention to the WCDMA standards may be accomplished.

In the exemplary embodiment of Figure 5d, the wireless communication device transmits a plurality of distinct channels of information which are distinguished from one another by short orthogonal spreading sequences as
10 described in the U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/886,604, entitled "HIGH DATA RATE CDMA WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM," assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated by reference herein. Five separate code channels are transmitted by the wireless communication device:
15 1) a first supplemental data channel 532, 2) a time multiplexed channel of pilot and power control symbols 534, 3) a dedicated control channel 536, 4) a second supplemental data channel 538 and 5) a fundamental channel 540. The first supplemental data channel 532 and second supplemental data channel 538 carry digital data which exceeds the capacity of the fundamental channel 540 such as facsimile, multimedia applications, video, electronic mail messages or
20 other forms of digital data. The multiplexed channel of pilot and power control symbols 534 carries pilots symbols to allow for coherent demodulation of the data channels by the base station and power control bits to control the energy of transmissions of the base station or base stations in communication with wireless communication device 500. Control channel 536 carries control

5

10

15

Sub
B2
20

that reorders the symbols in accordance with a predetermined interleaving format. The interleaved symbols are provided on line 536 to modulator 526.

Variable rate data source 502 generates variable rate data. In the exemplary embodiment, variable rate data source 502 is a variable rate speech encoder such as described in U.S. Patent No. 5,414,796, entitled "VARIABLE RATE VOCODER," assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated by reference herein. Variable rate vocoders are popular in wireless communications because their use increases the battery life of wireless communication devices and increases system capacity with minimal impact on perceived speech quality. The Telecommunications Industry Association has codified the most popular variable rate speech encoders in such standards as Interim Standard IS-96 and Interim Standard IS-733. These variable rate speech encoders encode the speech signal at four possible rates referred to as full rate, half rate, quarter rate or eighth rate according to the level of voice activity. The rate indicates the number of bits used to encode a frame of speech and varies on a frame by frame basis. Full rate uses a predetermined maximum number of bits to encode the frame, half rate uses half the predetermined maximum number of bits to encode the frame, quarter rate uses one quarter the predetermined maximum number of bits to encode the frame and eighth rate uses one eighth the predetermined maximum number of bits to encode the frame.

Variable rate data source 502 provides the encoded speech frame to CRC and tail bit generator 504. CRC and tail bit generator 504 appends a set of cyclic redundancy check bits which are parity bits used to check the accuracy of the decoding at the base station and appends a predetermined set of tail bits to the control message in order to clear the memory of the decoder at the base station. The frame is then provided to encoder 506, which provides forward error correction coding on the speech frame. The encoded symbols are provided to repetition generator 508, which provides repetition of the encoded symbol. The symbols are then provided to interleaver 510 and reordered in accordance with a predetermined interleaving format. The interleaved symbols are provided on line 540 to modulator 526.

In the exemplary embodiment, modulator 526 modulates the data channels in accordance with a code division multiple access modulation format and provides the modulated information to transmitter (TMTR) 530, which amplifies and filters the signal and provides the signal through duplexer 528 for transmission through an antenna. In IS-95 and cdma2000 systems, a 20 ms frame is divided into sixteen sets of equal numbers of symbols, referred to as power control groups. The reference to power control is based on the fact that for each power control group, the base station receiving the frame issues a power control command in response to a determination of the sufficiency of the received reverse link signal at the base station.

Figure 5e illustrates a functional block diagram of an exemplary embodiment of modulator 526 of Figure 5d. The first supplemental data channel data is provided on line 532 to spreading element 542 which covers the supplemental channel data in accordance with a predetermined spreading sequence. In the exemplary embodiment, spreading element 542 spreads the supplemental channel data with a short Walsh sequence (++--). The spread data is provided to relative gain element 544, which adjusts the gain of the spread supplemental channel data relative to the energy of the pilot and power control symbols. The gain adjusted supplemental channel data is provided to a first summing input of summing element 546. The pilot and power control multiplexed symbols are provided on line 534 to a second summing input of summing element 546.

Control channel data is provided on line 536 to spreading element 548 which covers the supplemental channel data in accordance with a predetermined spreading sequence. In the exemplary embodiment, spreading element 548 spreads the supplemental channel data with a short Walsh sequence (+++++-----). The spread data is provided to relative gain element 550, which adjusts the gain of the spread control channel data relative to the energy of the pilot and power control symbols. The gain adjusted control data is provided to a third summing input of summing element 546. Summing element 546 sums the gain adjusted control data symbols, the gain adjusted supplemental channel symbols and the time multiplexed pilot and power

control symbols and provides the sum to a first input of multiplier 562 and a first input of multiplier 568.

5 The second supplemental channel is provided on line 538 to spreading element 552 which covers the supplemental channel data in accordance with a predetermined spreading sequence. In the exemplary embodiment, spreading element 552 spreads the supplemental channel data with a short Walsh sequence (++--). The spread data is provided to relative gain element 554, which adjusts the gain of the spread supplemental channel data. The gain
10 adjusted supplemental channel data is provided to a first summing input of summer 556.

15 The fundamental channel data is provided on line 540 to spreading element 558 which covers the fundamental channel data in accordance with a predetermined spreading sequence. In the exemplary embodiment, spreading element 558 spreads the fundamental channel data with a short Walsh sequence (++++-----++++-----). The spread data is provided to relative gain element 560 that adjusts the gain of the spread fundamental channel data. The gain adjusted
20 fundamental channel data is provided to a second summing input of summing element 556. Summing element 556 sums the gain adjusted second supplemental channel data symbols and the fundamental channel data symbols and provides the sum to a first input of multiplier 564 and a first input of multiplier 566.

In the exemplary embodiment, a pseudonoise spreading using two different short PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) is used to spread the data. In the exemplary embodiment the short PN sequences, PN_I and PN_Q , are multiplied by a long PN code to provide additional privacy. The generation of pseudonoise sequences is well known in the art and is described in detail in U.S. Patent No. 5,103,459, entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GENERATING SIGNAL WAVEFORMS IN A CDMA CELLULAR TELEPHONE SYSTEM," assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated by reference herein. A long PN sequence is provided to a first input of multipliers 570 and 572. The short PN sequence PN_I is provided to a second input of multiplier 570 and the short PN sequence PN_Q is provided to a second input of multiplier 572.

The resulting PN sequence from multiplier 570 is provided to respective second inputs of multipliers 562 and 564. The resulting PN sequence from multiplier 572 is provided to respective second inputs of multipliers 566 and 568. The product sequence from multiplier 562 is provided to the summing input of subtractor 574. The product sequence from multiplier 564 is provided to a first summing input of summing element 576. The product sequence from multiplier 566 is provided to the subtracting input of subtractor 574. The product sequence from multiplier 568 is provided to a second summing input of summing element 576.

The difference sequence from subtractor 574 is provided to baseband filter 578. Baseband filter 578 performs necessary filtering on the difference

sequence and provides the filtered sequence to gain element 582. Gain element 582 adjusts the gain of the signal and provides the gain-adjusted signal to upconverter 586. Upconverter 586 upconverts the gain adjusted signal in accordance with a QPSK modulation format and provides the unconverted
5 signal to a first input of summing element 590.

The sum sequence from summing element 576 is provided to baseband filter 580. Baseband filter 580 performs necessary filtering on difference
10 sequence and provides the filtered sequence to gain element 584. Gain element 584 adjusts the gain of the signal and provides the gain-adjusted signal to upconverter 588. Upconverter 588 upconverts the gain adjusted signal in accordance with a QPSK modulation format and provides the upconverted
15 signal to a second input of summing element 590. Summing element 590 sums the two QPSK modulated signals and provides the result to a transmitter (not shown).

Turning now to Figure 6a, a functional block diagram of selected portions of a base station 600 in accordance with the present invention. Reverse link RF signals from the wireless communication device 500 (Figure 5e) are
20 received by receiver (RCVR) 602, which downconverts the received reverse link RF signals to an baseband frequency. In the exemplary embodiment, receiver 602 down converts the received signal in accordance with a QPSK demodulation format. Demodulator 604 then demodulates the baseband signal. Demodulator 604 is further described with reference to Figure 6b below.

The demodulated signal is provided to accumulator 606. Accumulator 606 sums the symbol energies of the redundantly transmitted power control groups of symbols. The accumulated symbol's energies are provided to de-interleaver 608 and reordered in accordance with a predetermined de-interleaving format. The reordered symbols are provided to decoder 610 and decoded to provide an estimate of the transmitted frame. The estimate of the transmitted frame is then provided to CRC check 612 which determines the accuracy of the frame estimate based on the CRC bits included in the transmitted frame.

In the exemplary embodiment, base station 600 performs a blind decoding on the reverse link signal. Blind decoding describes a method of decoding variable rate data in which the receiver does not know a priori the rate of the transmission. In the exemplary embodiment, base station 600 accumulates, deinterleaves and decodes the data in accordance with each possible rate hypothesis. The frame selected as the best estimate is based on quality metrics such as the symbol error rate, the CRC check and the Yamamoto metric.

An estimate of the frame for each rate hypothesis is provided to control processor 616 and a set of quality metrics for each of the decoded estimates is also provided. Quality metrics that may include the symbol error rate, the Yamamoto metric and the CRC check. Control processor selectively provides

one of the decoded frames to the remote station user or declares a frame erasure.

An expanded functional block diagram of an exemplary single demodulation chain of demodulator 604 is shown in Figure 6b. In the preferred embodiment, demodulator 604 has one demodulation chain for each information channel. The exemplary demodulator 604 of Figure 6b performs complex demodulation on signals modulated by the exemplary modulator 604 of Figure 6a. As previously described, receiver (RCVR) 602 downconverts the received reverse link RF signals to a baseband frequency, producing Q and I baseband signals. Despreaders 614 and 616 respectively despread the I and Q baseband signals using the long code from Figure 5d. Baseband filters (BBF) 618 and 620 respectively filter the I and Q baseband signals.

Despreaders 622 and 624 respectively despread the I and Q signals using the PN_I sequence of Figure 5e. Similarly, despreaders 626 and 628 respectively despread the Q and I signals using the PN_Q sequence of Figure 5e. The outputs of despreaders 622 and 624 are combined in combiner 630. The output of desreader 628 is subtracted from the output of desreader 624 in combiner 632. The respective outputs of combiners 630 and 632 are then Walsh-uncovered in Walsh-uncoverers 634 and 636 with the Walsh code that was used to cover the particular channel of interest in Figure 5e. The respective outputs of the Walsh-uncoverers 634 and 636 are then summed over one Walsh symbol by accumulators 642 and 644.

The respective outputs of combiners 630 and 632 are also summed over one Walsh symbol by accumulators 638 and 640. The respective outputs of accumulators 638 and 640 are then applied to pilot filters 646 and 648. Pilot filters 646 and 648 generate an estimation of the channel conditions by determining the estimated gain and phase of the pilot signal data 534 (see Figure 5d). The output of pilot filter 646 is then complex multiplied by the respective outputs of accumulators 642 and 644 in complex multipliers 650 and 652. Similarly, the output of pilot filter 648 is complex multiplied by the respective outputs of accumulators 642 and 644 in complex multipliers 654 and 656. The output of complex multiplier 654 is then summed with the output of complex multiplier 650 in combiner 658. The output of complex multiplier 656 is subtracted from the output of complex multiplier 652 in combiner 660. Finally, the outputs of combiners 558 and 660 are combined in combiner 662 to produce the demodulated signal of interest.

Despite the specific foregoing descriptions, ordinarily skilled artisans having the benefit of this disclosure will recognize that the apparatus discussed above may be implemented in a machine of different construction without departing from the scope of the present invention. Similarly, parallel methods may be developed. As a specific apparatus example, one of the components such as summing element 622, shown in Figure 6b, may be combined with summing element 626 even though they are shown as separate elements in the functional diagram.

OTHER EMBODIMENTS

While there have been shown what are presently considered to be preferred embodiments of the invention, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various changes and modifications can be made without departing from the scope of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

* * * * *

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: